EDN
MD & P.H. (1959) Department

Hs SERIES.

G.O. No. 1838 P.H.

Dated 15.6.46.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Subj:- Legislative Council Question - Fees charged - charged by doctors from patients.

FEES CHARGED BY DOCTORS FROM PATIENTS.

*273Q.- SRI B. BHIMA RØAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state-

(a) whether the Government have fixed the maximum and minimum scales of fees to be charged by officers of the rank of (1) District Medical Officers and (2) Assistant Surgeons, when patients go to them for private consultation;

(b) whether the Government will lay on the table of the House the Memorandum or Government Order prescribing such fees;

(c) whether the aforesaid officers could charge such fees when the patients go to them in hospital during office hours; and when the

(d) whether they could levy any fees for taking radiographs, when the patients are suspected to have T.B. or any other lung affection; and if so, what is the fee prescribed therefor is?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: "(a) No scale of fees has been prescribed by Government.

"(b) Does not arise.

"(c) Medical Officers cannot charge fees for the medical attendance of patients in the hospital.

"(d) Fee is charged for taking radiographs of patients when income is Rs. 75 and above and the amount realised is credited to Government. The following are the rates of fees:

INCOME OF PATIENT OR HEAD OF HIS OR HER FAMILY.	RATE OF FEES FOR TAKING RADIOGRAPHS OF PATIENTS WITH T.B. OR LUNG AFFECTION. RS.
Upt to Rs. 99	5
From Rs. 100 to Rs. 199	10
From Rs. 200 to Rs. 349	12
From Rs. 350 to Rs. 499	15
From Rs. 500 to Rs. 749	20
From Rs. 750 and upwards.	25"

SRI B. BHIMA RAO: "May I know whether any Member of the Indian Medical Service who is in charge of a District Headquarters Hospital is entitled to charge any fee and, if so, how much, for private consultation?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: "The medical practitioner will have to settle the fees with his privately. He is not fettered by any rules in regard to this matter."

SRI S.B. ADITYAN: "With reference to the answer to clause (d) of the question, may I know whether any concession is given in the case of T.B. patients?"

THE HON. SRI A.B. SHETTY: "In the case of T.B. patients frequent X-ray screenings are necessary when A.P. is being done. So, a flat rate of Rs. 15 a month has been fixed. It is a concession rate."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: "Is the Hon. Mi-

nister aware that, what is known as the 'chit system', is prevailing in the hospitals in the City?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: "I have heard about this allegation. But no specific instance has been brought to my notice."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO: "Is any Member of the Indian Medical Service entitled to charge Rs. 32 for private consultation?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: "I have already said that the maximum and minimum fees have not been fixed."

Mr. PRESIDENT: "I thought that the Hon. Minister would ~~ask~~ ask the Hon. Member whether HIS maximum and minimum fees have been fixed."

/True copy/

An extract of the proceedings of the Council containing the answer to the question had been added to the file. No further action seems called for. The papers may be recorded.

G.O. Ms. No. 1836, Public Hralth, dated 18.5.49.

Legislative Council Question - fees charged by Government - doctors from patients papers - Recorded.

(Sd) x x
Secretary to Government.

/True copy/

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.

mr. 11.8.